

# Informatics Database System at the NIST Combinatorial Methods Center

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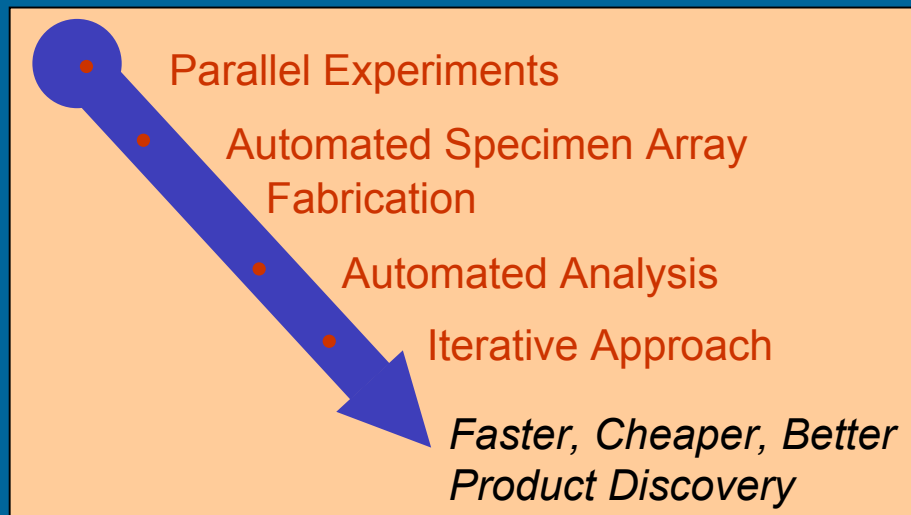


# Combinatorial and High-Throughput Techniques

## Introduction

- Revolutionized the pharmaceutical industry
- Accelerating materials research

70% of the worlds 30 largest chemical companies have substantial investment in combinatorial programs”  
- Peter Cohen, CTO, Symyx Corp. June, 2002

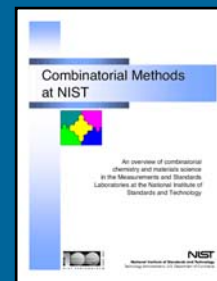
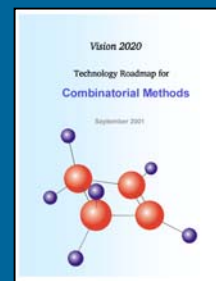
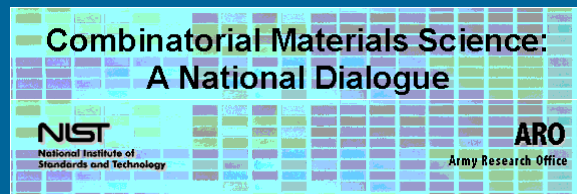


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# NIST Combinatorial Methods Center

2000

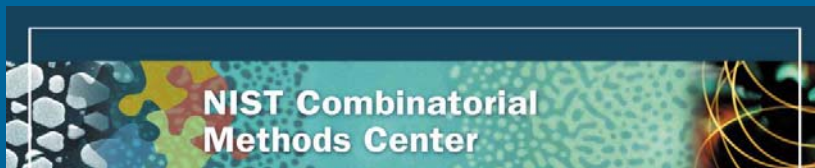
- Combinatorial Methods Road mapping Workshop, NIST, May, 2000
  - Vision 2020 “Technology Roadmap for Combinatorial Methods”, September 2001
- Critical Issues in Designing and Characterizing Polymers for Medical Applications, NIST/New Jersey Center for Biomaterials, Rutgers, NJ June, 2000
- NIST Combi-Methods Center, July, 2001
- Combinatorial Methods Working Group (CMWG), NIST, Mar, 2002
  - Combinatorial Methods at NIST, NISTIR 6730
- COMBI 2002 Knowledge Foundation, NCMC kick-off, Jan, 2002
  - NCMC-1 “Library Design and Calibration”, NIST, April, 2002
  - NCMC-2 “Combinatorial Adhesion and Mechanical Properties”, NIST, Oct, 2002
  - NCMC-3 “Combinatorial Informatics”, NIST, May, 2003
- Gordon Conference “Combinatorial and High Throughput Materials Science”, Meriden, NH Jun, 2002
- COMBI 2003 Knowledge Foundation “High Throughput Materials Informatics”, Feb, 2003



2003

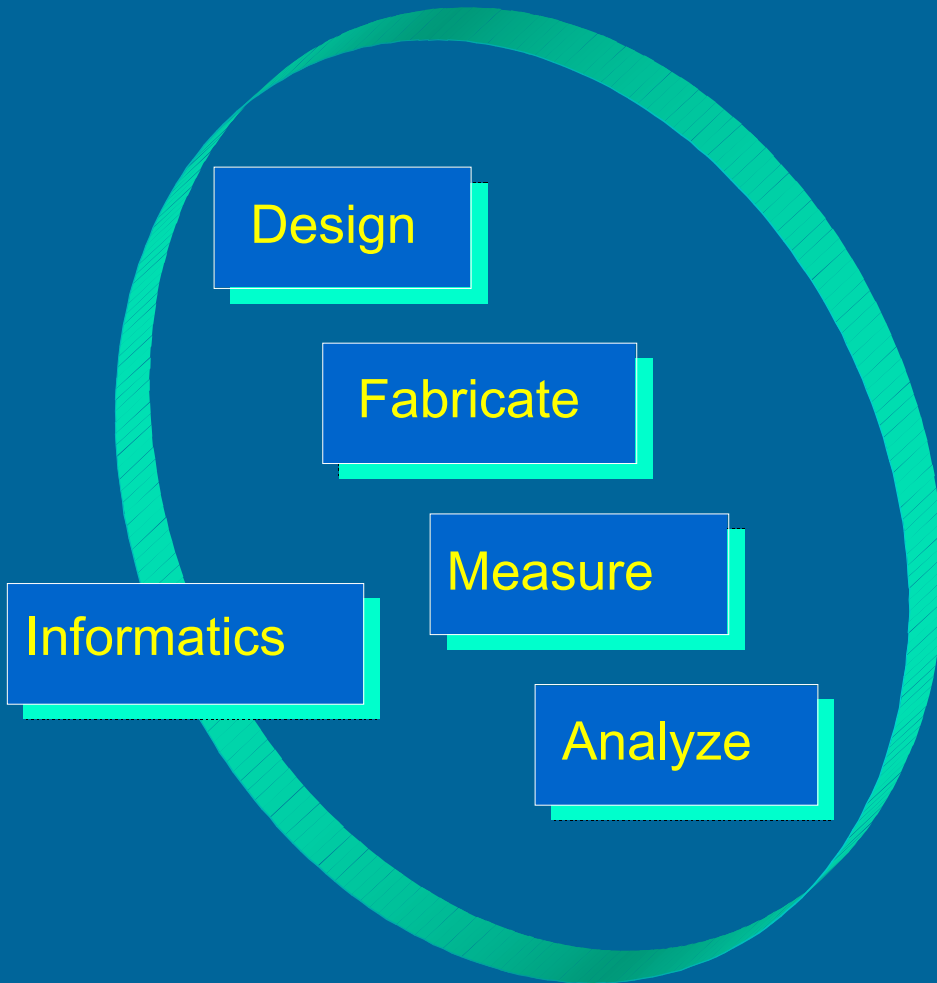
# Technical Directions

- NIST Combinatorial Methods Center (NCCMC)



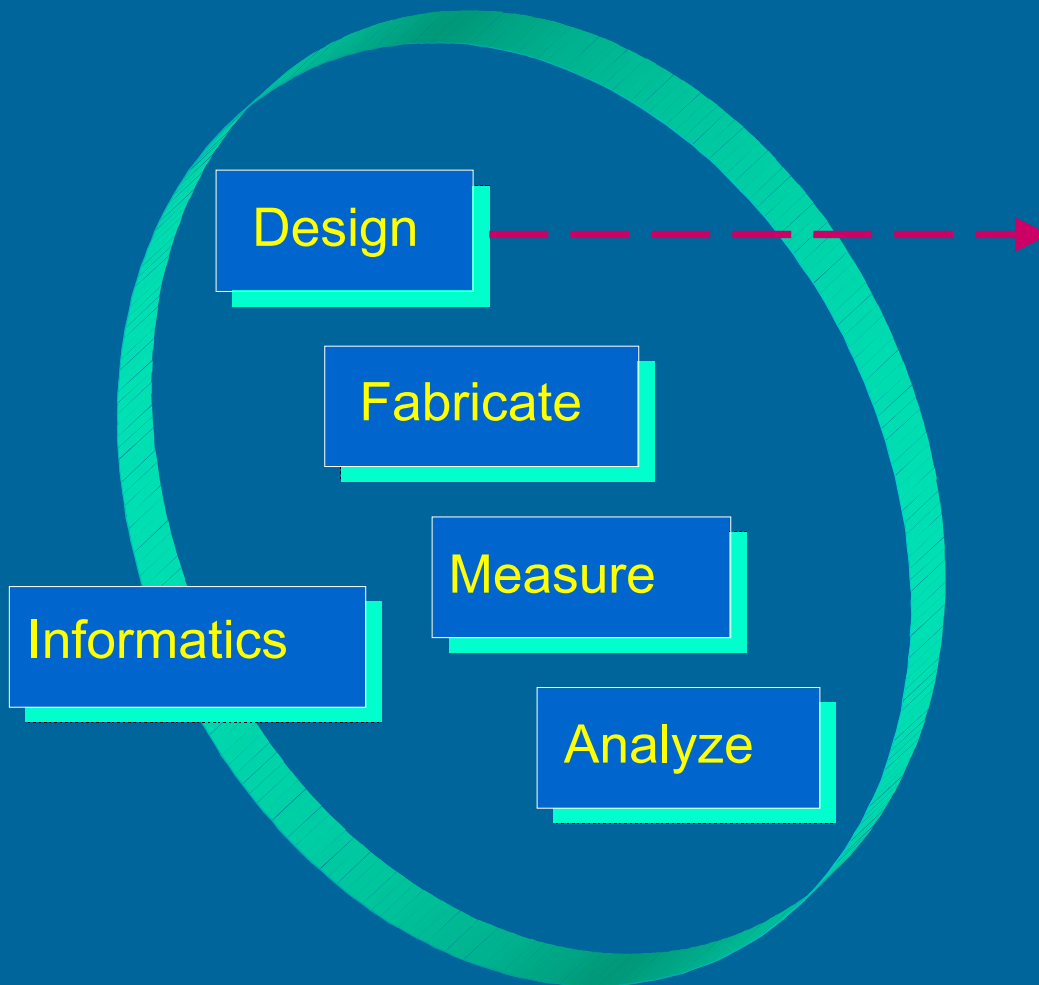
- **Films and Coatings**
  - Topography and Wetting
  - Optical properties
  - Dielectric properties
- **Lubricants, Adhesives**
  - Tribology, Adhesion
  - Anisotropic properties
- **Polymer Blends**
  - Thermodynamics and kinetics
  - Phase separation morphology
  - Composition, temperature, processing
  - Additives (fillers, CO<sub>2</sub>, process aids)
- **Block Copolymers**
  - Surface ordering
  - Surface energy
  - Temperature
- **Biofunctional Materials**
  - Biocompatibility
  - Topography
  - Cell adhesion
- **Polymer Crystallization**
  - Surface effects
  - Nucleating agents

# The Combinatorial Cycle



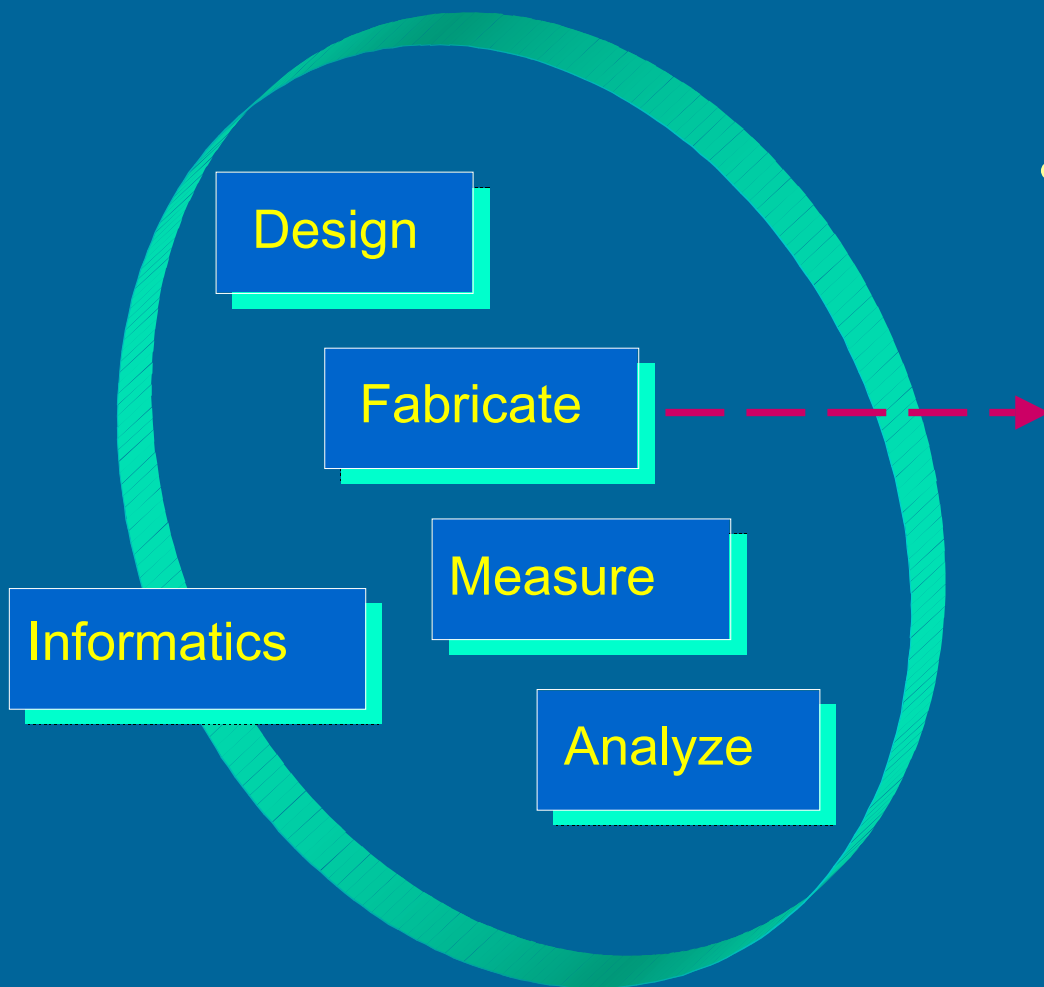
- Steps in Combinatorial research

# Important Parameters



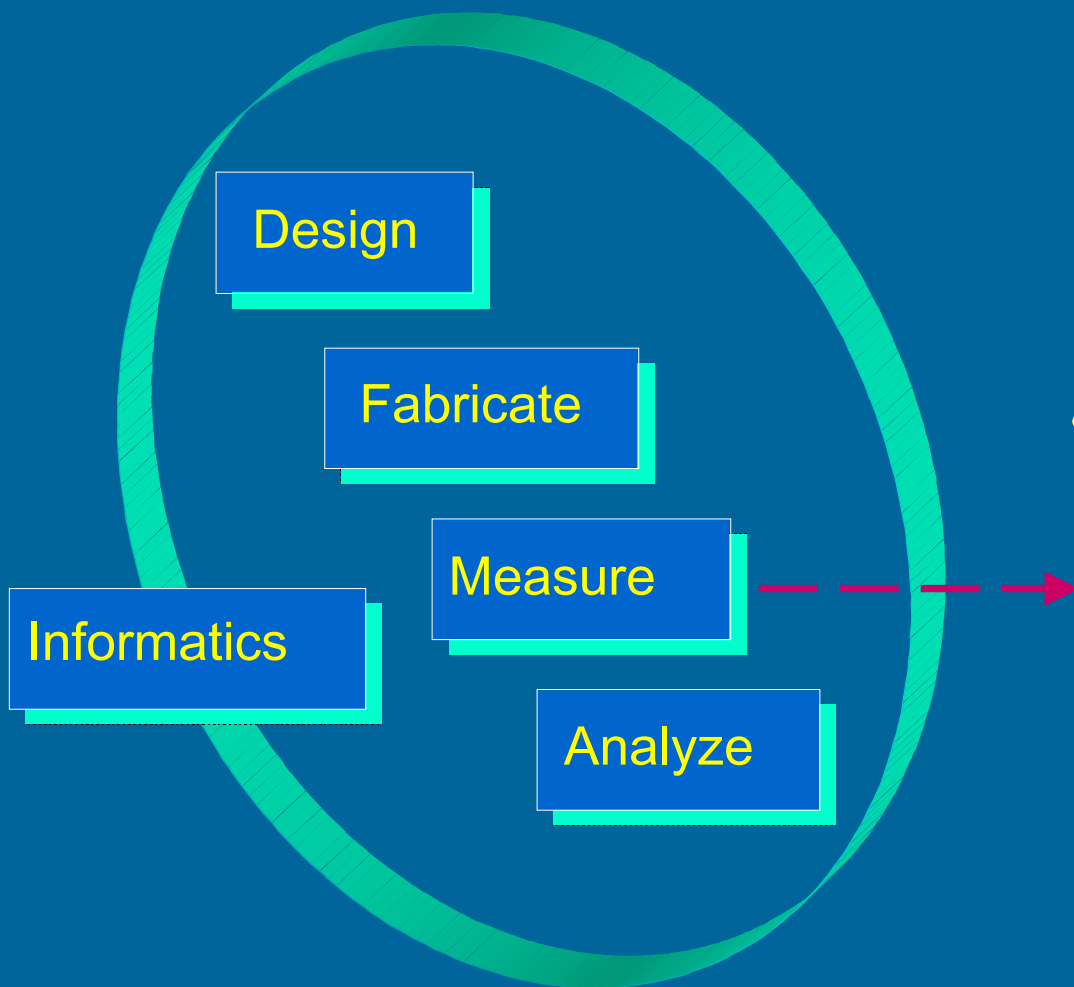
- Define sampling of parameter space
  - Molecular structure
  - Composition
  - Morphology
  - Processing

# Library Fabrication



- Synthesis and creation of samples
  - Continuous gradients
  - Split and pool
  - Small/discrete samples
  - Patterning

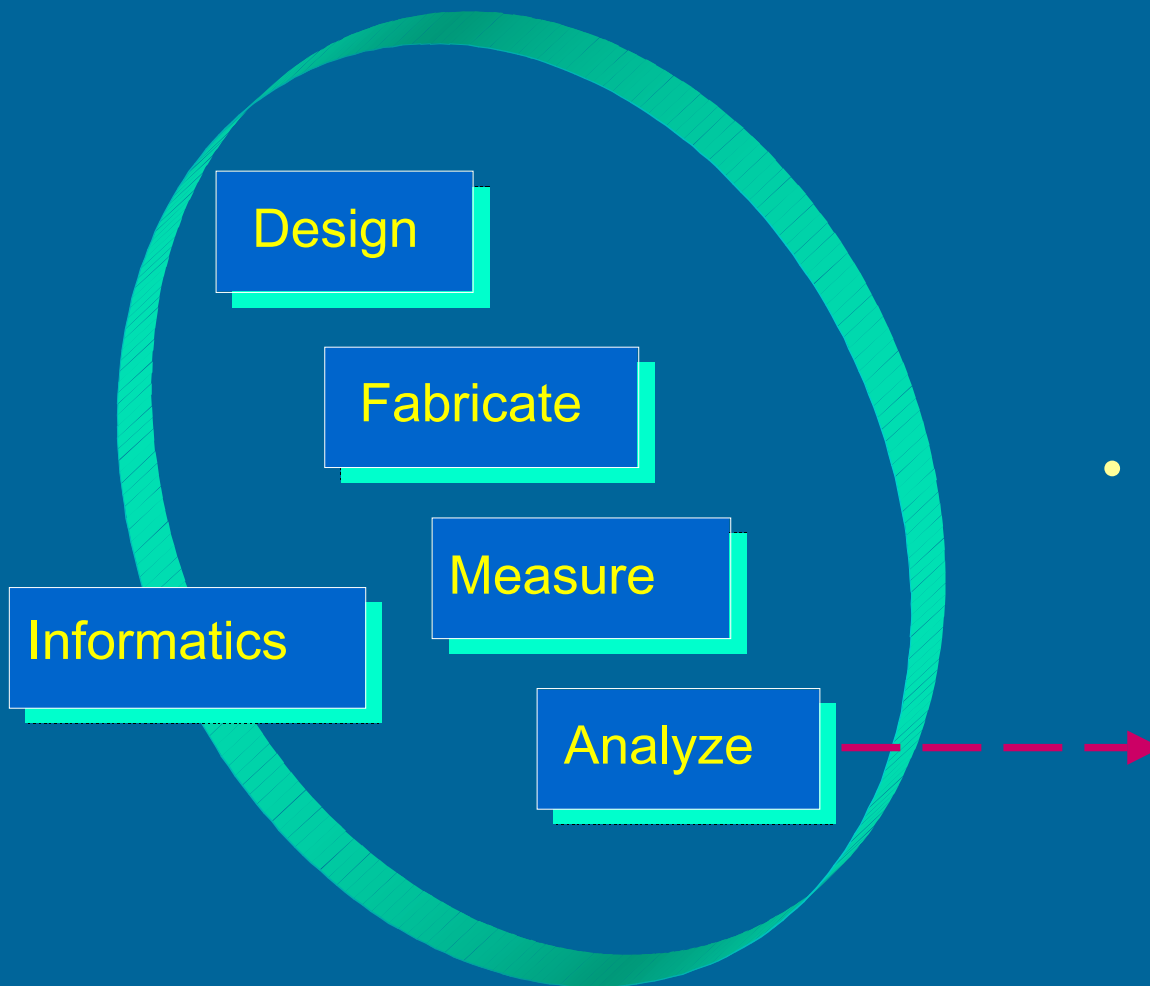
# High-Throughput Measurements



- Characterize materials, Discriminate performance
  - Screening hits
  - Comparative performance
  - Quantitative data



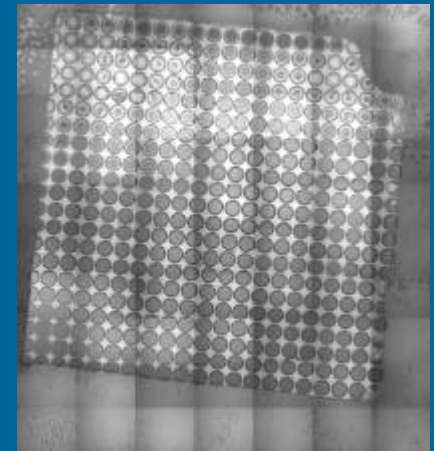
# Automated Data Analysis



- From massive data sets to knowledge
  - Data management
  - Visualization
  - Data mining
  - Development of predictive models

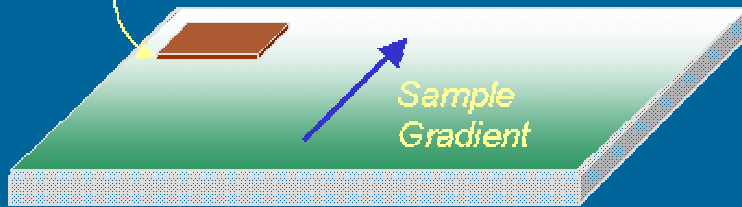
# Specific Example – Combinatorial Adhesion

- Library Design: Miniaturized multi-JKR ( $\text{mm} \Rightarrow \mu\text{m}$ )
- Library Fabrication: Micro-Lens array via soft-lithography
- High-Throughput Measurements: Rapid image acquisition with coordinated stage motion (Labview & Image-Pro)
- High-Throughput Analysis:
  - Extract contact radius ( $a$ ) as a function of displacement ( $d$ )
  - Calculate the strain energy for each array displacement
  - Plot strain energy against crack velocity
  - Perform two parameter fit of experimental data to determine material properties



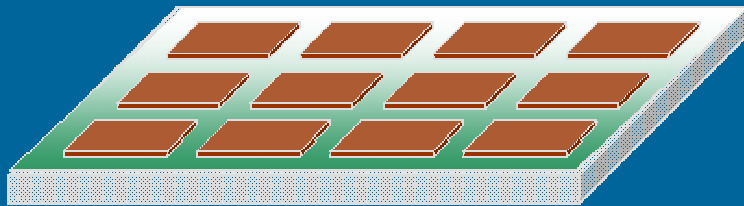
# Need for Informatics

*1 cm<sup>2</sup> or 1 mm<sup>2</sup>  
Microlens Array*



*3 cm x 5 cm gradient library*

Single Microlens Test



*Multiple tests with a Microlens Array*

Multiple Microlens Test

- Data generation
  - ~200 pictures
  - ~269 megabytes
  - Analysis: Fit displacement and area data for ~80 lenses
- Workload increases by a factor of  $n = 12$ 
  - ~2400 pictures
  - ~3.30 gigabytes
  - Analysis: Fit displacement and area data for ~1000 lenses

Consider  $n = 100 \Rightarrow$  Info-flooding !!

*Issues*

*Does data need to be stored locally or centrally?*

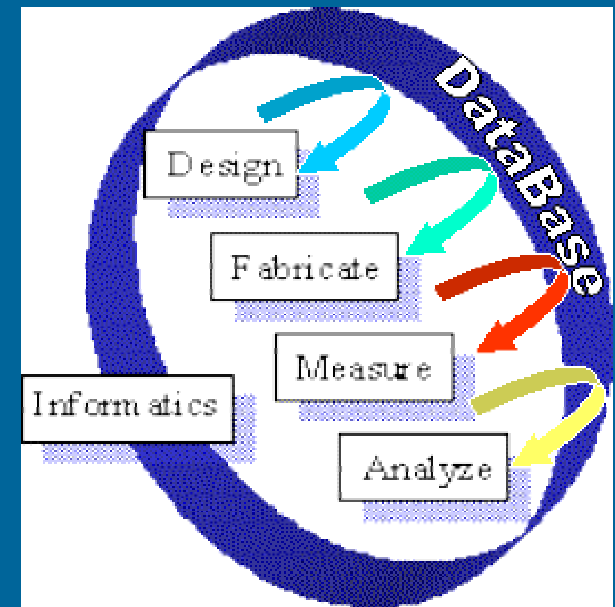
*Can informatics allow for real time data analyses?*

*How about detecting flawed libraries early ?*

# Informatics—Closing the Loop

## Informatics & feedback for:

- Data management, integration
- Data visualization
- Automated data entry, retrieval
- Protocols for standardized data formats
- Link to and refine other combi processes formats
- Library of scientific combi data



Informatics is needed at all stages of the combi cycle.....

# Informatics

## *Required at all Stages of the Combi-Cycle*

- **Design of Experiments (DOE)**
  - Statistical models, Empirical data, Literature values, Prior data...
- **Fabrication of Libraries**
  - Instrument automation, Link to library database, Standardized experimental procedure...
- **High-throughput measurements**
  - Data management: automated data entry, retrieval, integration, consistent data format
    - Data visualization ...
- **High-throughput analysis**
  - Data processing, theoretical models, simulations, library of scientific combi-data...
- **Feedback**
  - Refine next set of HTE intelligently!

# NCMC Informatics Project

- Consolidation/Integration of NCMC automation and analysis software
- Development of model combi research database system:

Designed for transparency

*Easily understood structure*

Built on open source code

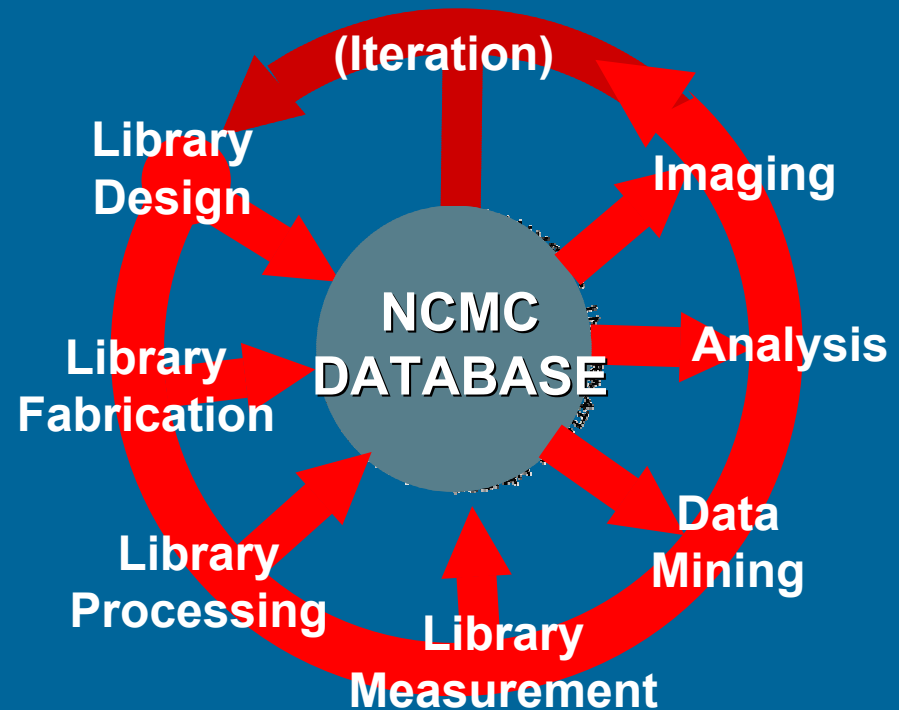
*Free to use and modify*

PostgreSQL database

Python programming language

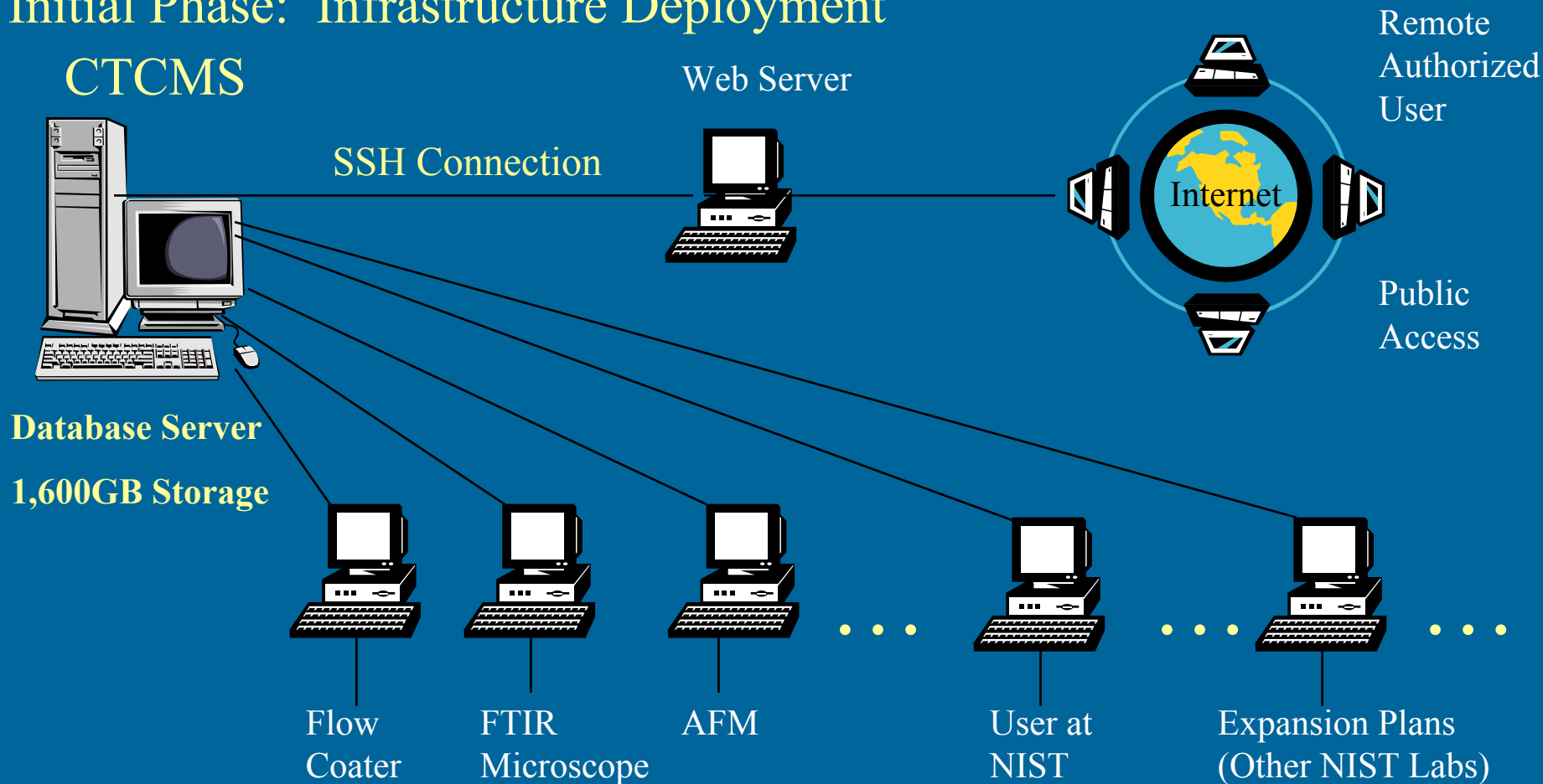
Web Access

*Eventual public data mining*



# NCCMC Informatics Infrastructure Development

## Initial Phase: Infrastructure Deployment



**NCCMC Instruments and Analysis Software**

This phase is near completion

# Database Management System

## PostgreSQL

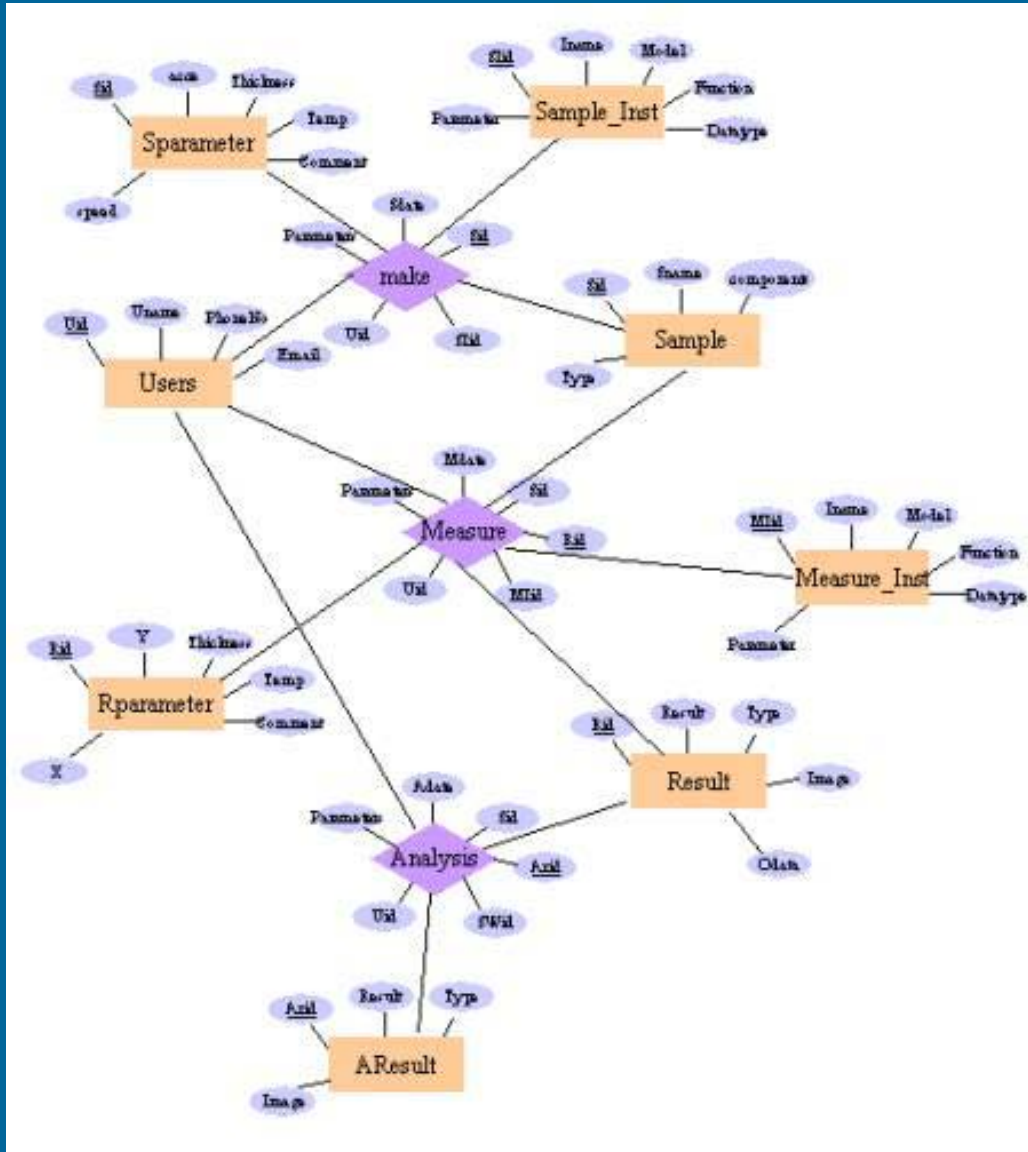
- Sophisticated Object-Relational DBMS
- Supporting almost all SQL (Structured Query Language), including sub selects, transactions, and user-defined types and functions
- One of the most advanced **open-source** database available anywhere
- Commercial support available

For More Information:

[www.postgresql.org](http://www.postgresql.org)



# Basic Structure of Database

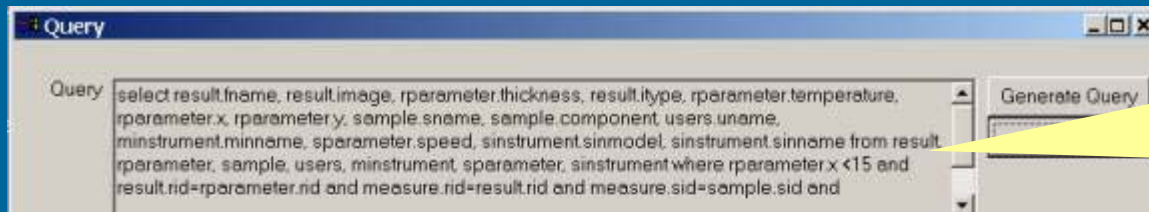


- Straight forward structure in consideration of automation & expansion
- Must reflect the frame-work of the Combi lab
- Establish basic protocol of Combi experiment set (All stages of Combi processes)
- Large objects, such as image, video, result chart, original data file storage

# Software Technology

- Programming Language
  - Python (Open source, Object oriented)
- Secured Shell Connection with the Database server
- ZOPE selected as Web server
  - Base on Python, Open source, Easy to maintain, Database connectivity
- Integration with current data analysis software (mostly IDL)
- Consideration of future interface with other software

# User Interface for Data Mining



Automatic query generation easy to use, no SQL knowledge required. Search by range, type, user, sample, file, etc.



Result table, image and other objects can pop-up with a click

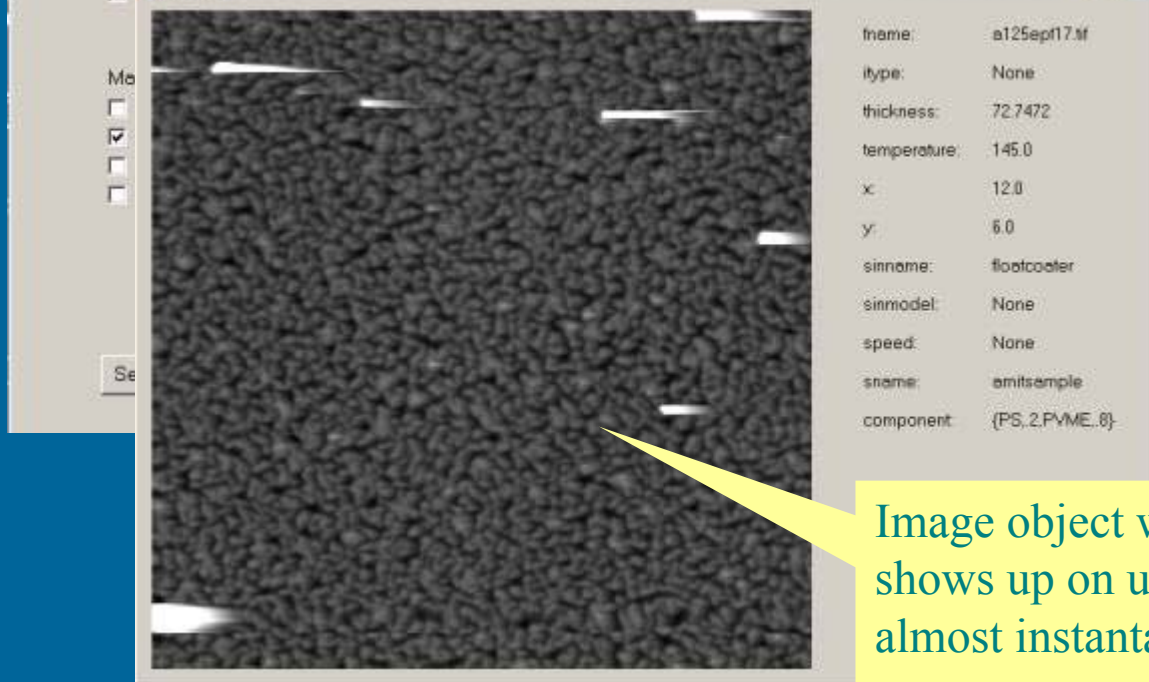
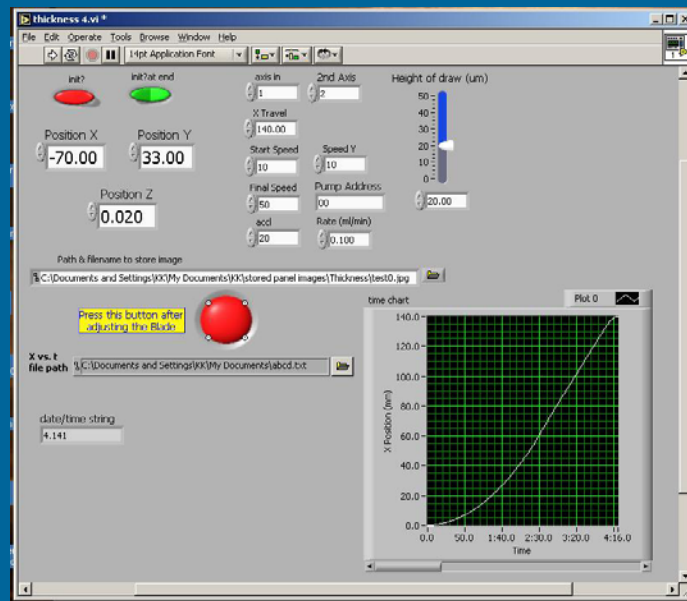
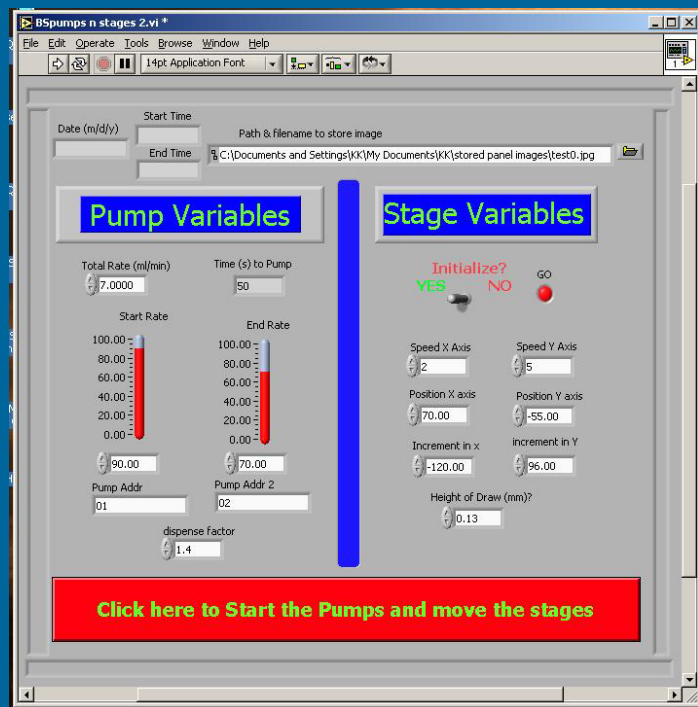
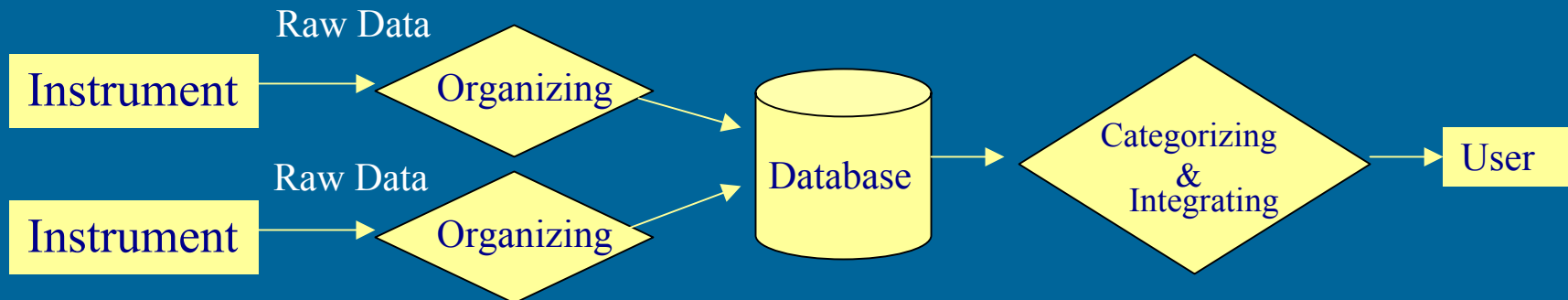
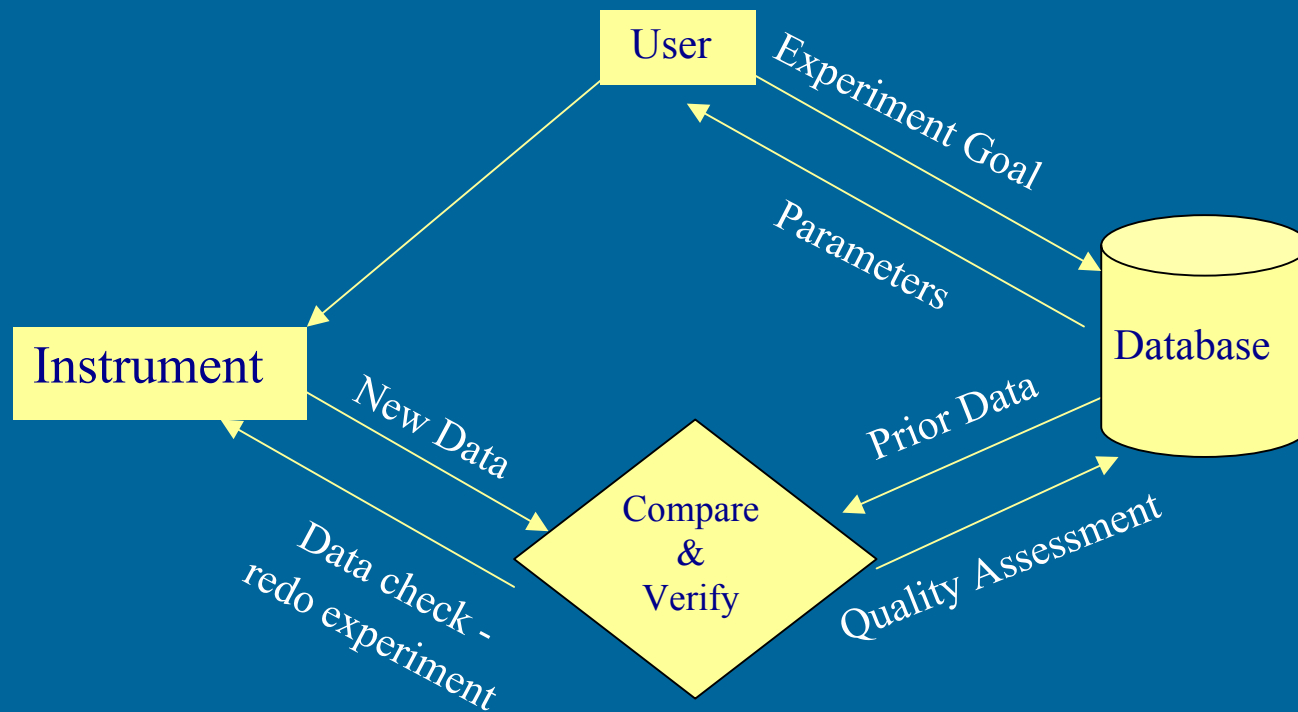


Image object with its conditions shows up on user's desktop almost instantaneously

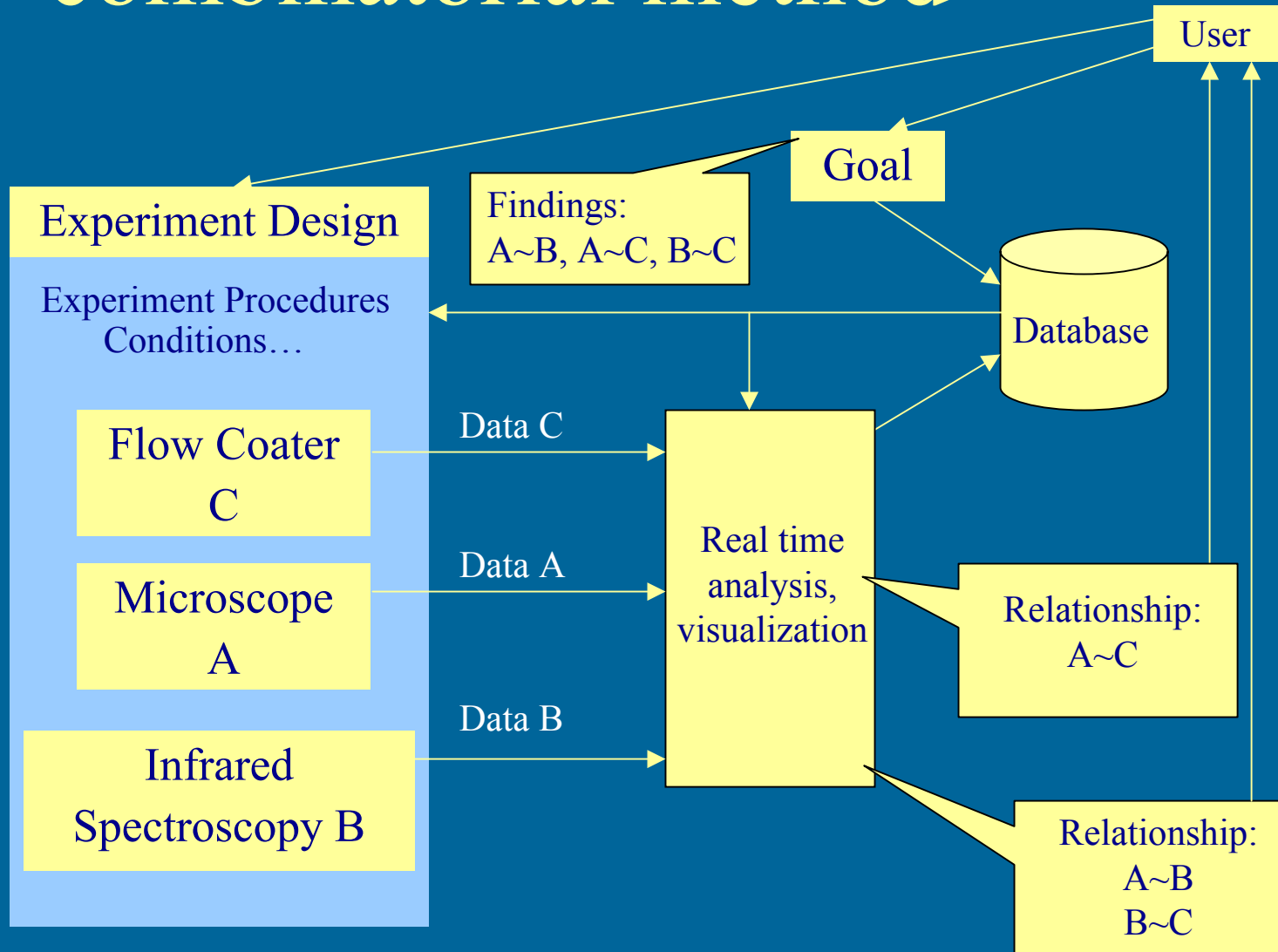
# Phase 1: Automated Data Entry and Retrieval



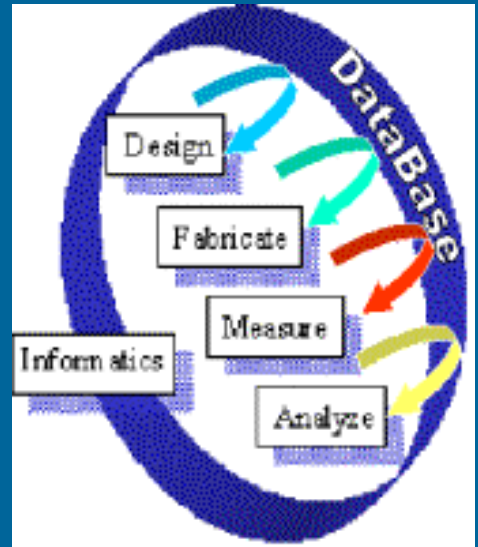
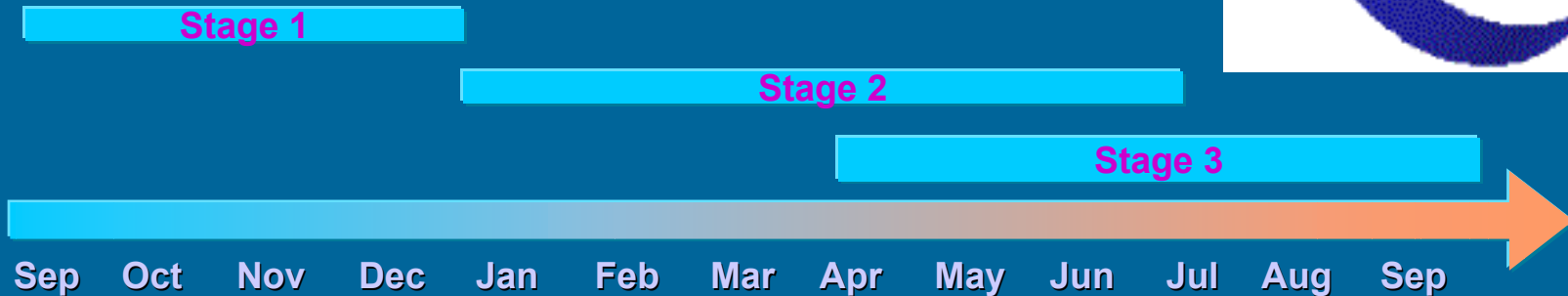
# Phase 2: “Expert System” for Each Instrument



# Phase 3: Closing the loop of the combinatorial method



# 1-Year Schedule



Stage 1: Database setup and programming, e-notebook

Stage 2: Machine programming and automatic data entry and retrieval

Stage 3: Analytic software and feedback automation



# NCMC Contributors



- NIST Combinatorial Methods Center

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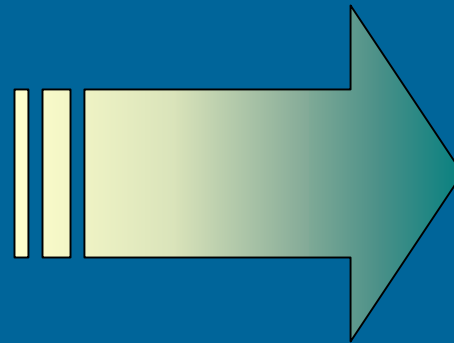


# NCMC Combi Informatics Workshop

In conjunction with CTCMS and the Statistical Engineering Division  
May 22-23, 2003, NIST Gaithersburg, MD

## Informatics Seminar

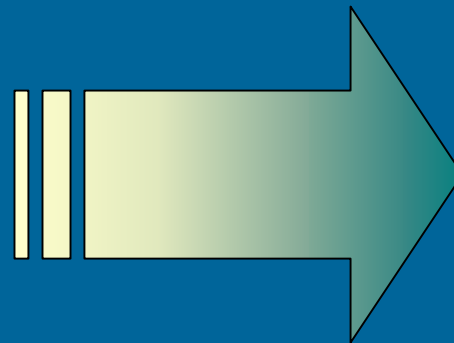
- Resource Integration
- DOE strategies
- Combi Error Analysis



Issues  
Defined

## Informatics Standards Forum

- Research Industry
- Instrument Producers
- Software Providers



Issues  
Discussed

Visit [www.nist.gov/combi](http://www.nist.gov/combi) for more details